

# **The social integration of Romanian immigrants in France**

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# Why this study?

## Why a research on social integration of immigrants coming from new waves of migration?

- ⊙ The new political, social and economic realities in Europe after the fall of communism in Eastern Europe have caused a great migration from East to West.
- ⊙ Research on social integration of immigrants in the host countries is rare and less known.

## Why a research on Romanian immigrants?

- ⊙ Immigration from Romania is the largest one among the communist countries.

## Why a research on social integration in France?

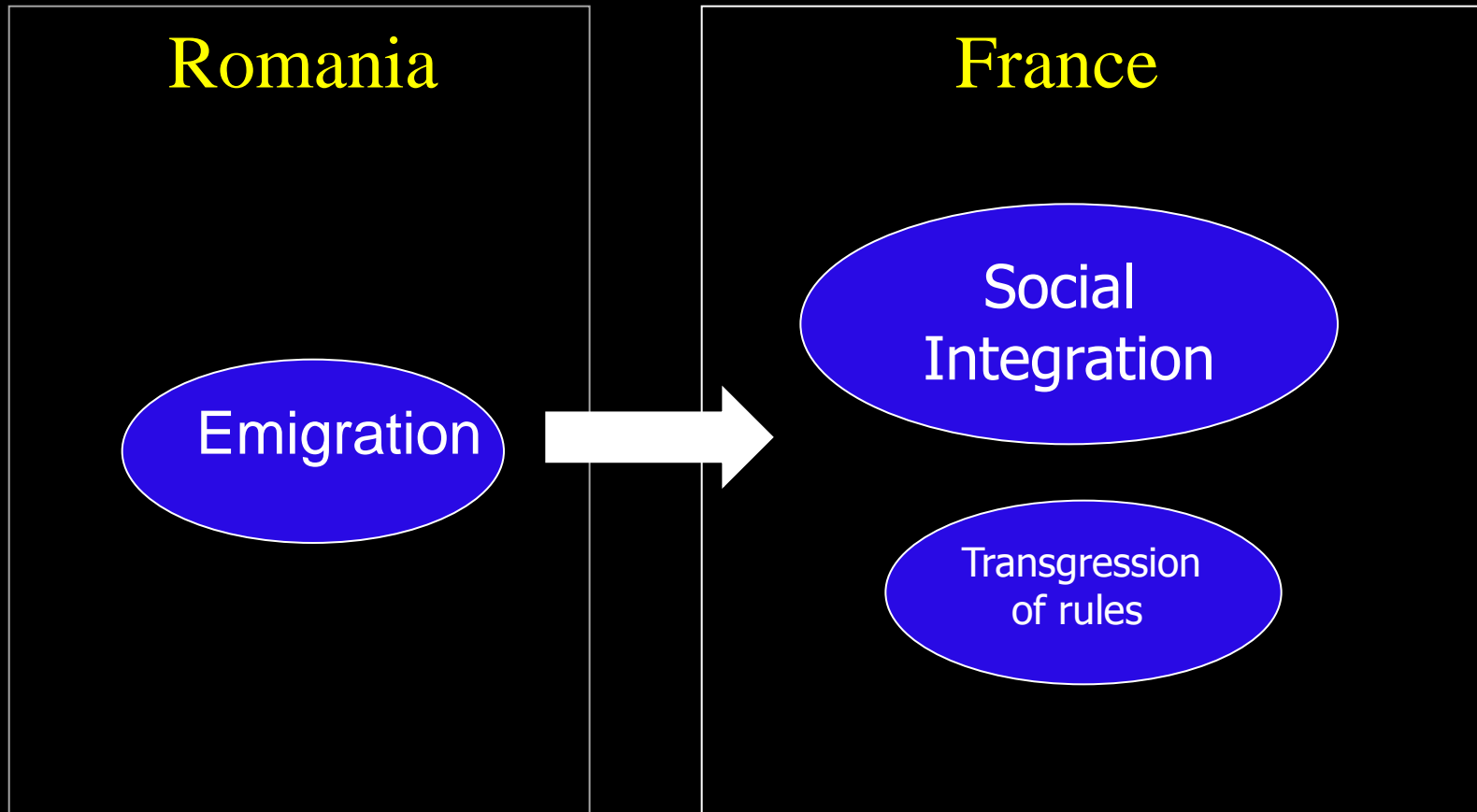
- ⊙ France has been a destination country for Romanian immigrants during the communist era and after. It is the only one that allows us to compare the process of social integration of immigrants from the 90s with those who have come before the fall of communism.

# The social integration of Romanian immigrants in France

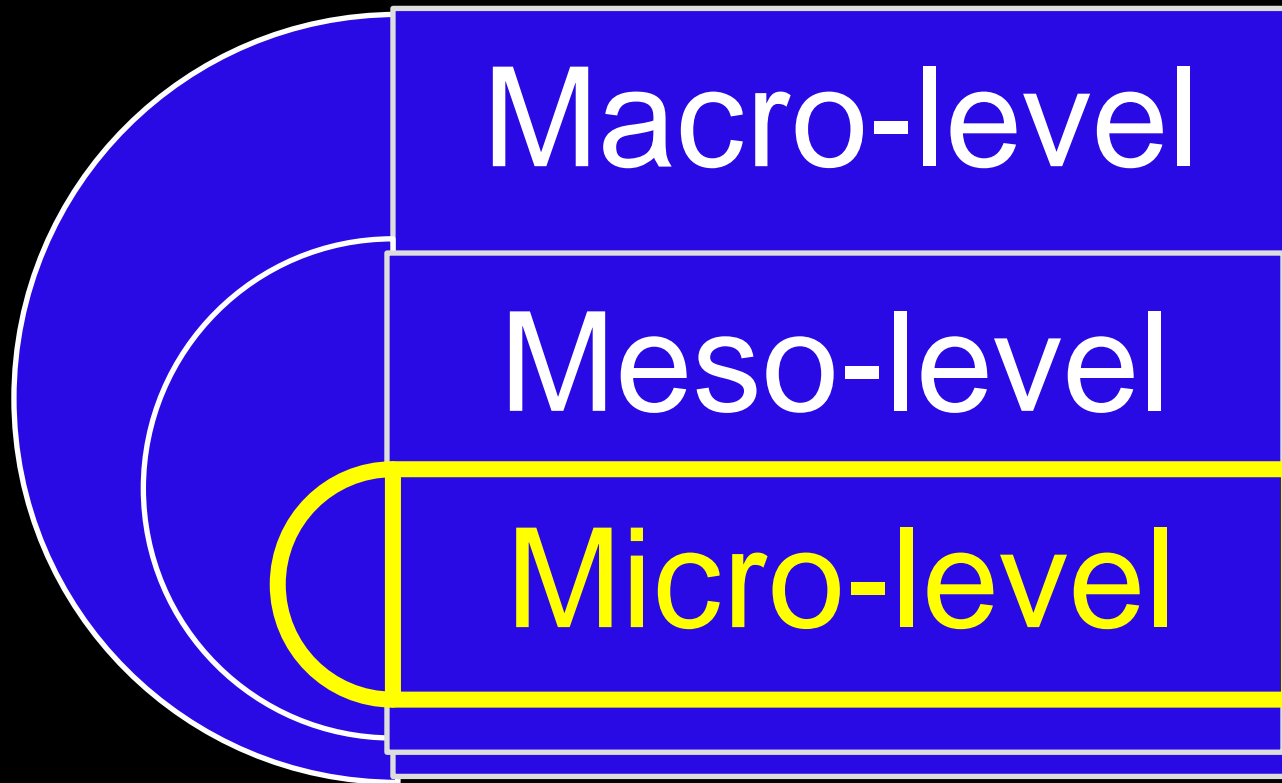
## Methodology

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# Research Structure



# Research design



# Objectives of the research

## ◎ **Identify the specifics in the life-style of the Romanian immigrants in France**

*Specific objectives:*

1. Identify the specific nature of jobs in France
2. Identify the level of education of Romanian immigrants
3. Identify the characteristics of Romanian immigrants' housing
4. Identify the revenue level of the Romanian immigrants
5. Identify the specific nature of interpersonal relations with others in France

# Objectives of the research

6. Identify the circumstances and level of use of French language;
7. Identify the religious orientation and specificity of their religious life;
8. Identify the most important values for the Romanian immigrants;
9. Identify the nature of marriage and marital strategy;
10. Identify the future plans of Romanian immigrants;

# Methods

## 1. The methods used

- ❖ Interview
  - ❖ Standardized interview
  - ❖ Life-history interview

## 2. The population included in the study

- ❖ Romanian immigrants present on the territory of France

## 3. The size of the corpus study

- ❖ 233 people

## 4. The sites chosen for data collection

- ❖ Paris, Nice, Montpellier, Strasbourg, Bordeaux



# The social integration of Romanian immigrants in France

## 5. The contact investigator-investigated

- ❖ By means of direct contact with the Romanian immigrants
- ❖ By means of “indirect contact” with Romanian immigrants.

## 6. Data collection

- ❖ Face to face interview
  - Interviews conducted in the street or in public places
  - Interviews conducted at the home of the interviewed people
- ❖ Respondent self-administered interview
  - Self-administered interview and returned by post
  - Self-administered interview filed-in online
  - Self-administered interview and returned by hand

# The social integration of Romanian immigrants in France


7. Language of the interview.
  - ❖ Romanian
  
8. Type of approach used for data analysis
  - ❖ Quantitative analysis
  - ❖ Qualitative analysis
  
9. Software used
  - ❖ SPSS

# The social integration of Romanian immigrants in France

## 10. Difficulties of the research

- ❖ Field realities not matching the foreseen situations
- ❖ Difficulty in establishing contact
- ❖ Skepticism of the people interviewed towards our research

## 11. Limitations of the research

- ❖ Specific limitations of the structured interview
  - ❖ Using multiple methods for data collection
- 

# The social integration of Romanian immigrants in France

## **The research results**

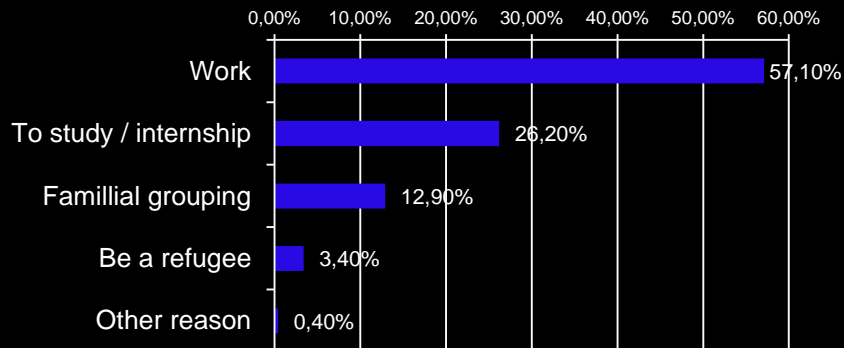
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# The structure of our sample

- Emigration to France retains the main features of Romanian emigration (economic motivation, the migration network)
- A special category is that of immigrants who came to France for professional development (doctors and engineers)

## You came to France to: ....

Total: 233



		No. of people	Percentage (%)
Gender	Men	119	51,1%
	Women	114	48,9%
Age	< de 18 years	3	1,4%
	18 - 25 years	27	12,6%
	26 -35 years	101	47,0%
	36 - 45 years	56	26,0%
	46 - 55 years	18	8,4%
	> 55 years	10	4,7%
	N.R.	18	
Came to France from:	< 6 years	150	68,2%
	6 – 18 years	63	28,6%
	>18 years	7	3,2%
	N.R.	13	

# The structural integration

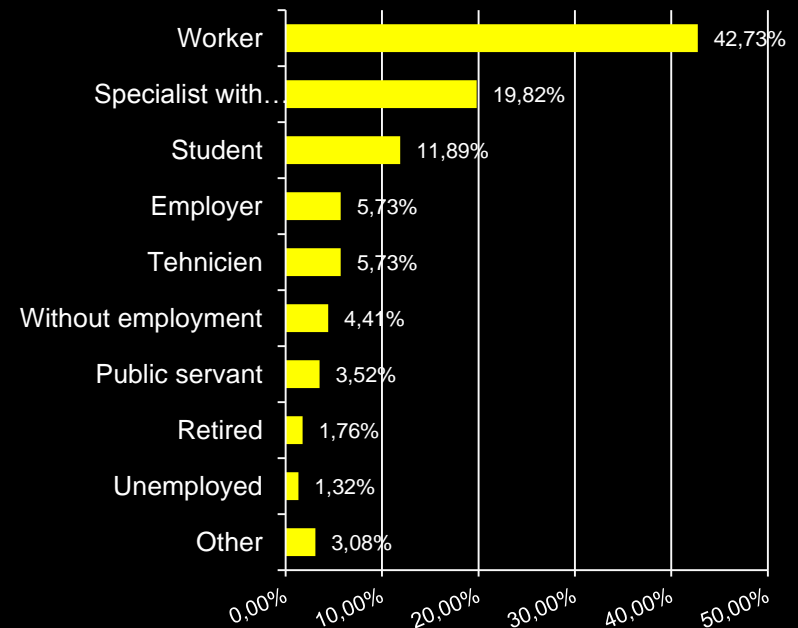
## □ Residence permit

- 60% of immigrants surveyed have a residence permit

## □ The work

- 85% of our subjects reported to have worked or at least have looked for work in France
- The social network is a very important resource to find a workplace: 73% were assisted by another person (out of which 50% were Romanians and 19% were French) while 27% found jobs on their own.
- In the group of professionals and students women have a higher representation than men. In the category of workers and those without occupation men are better represented.
- Romanian immigration have a high job satisfaction irrespective of the professional category they belong to.

Current employment status:  
Total=227; NR 6

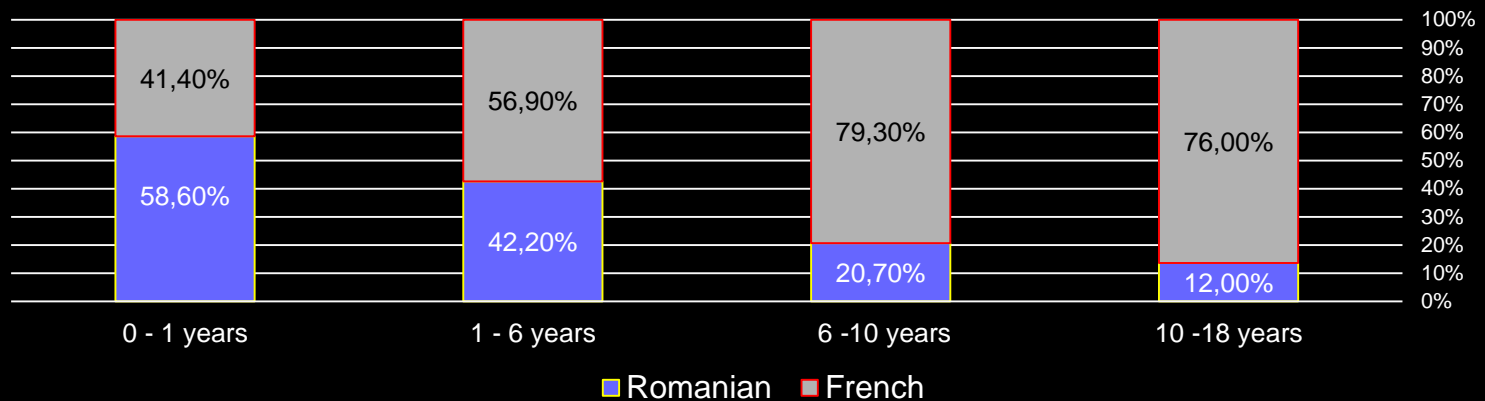


# The structural integration

## □ The work

Over time, one can observe a clear and clean mobility for the Romanian immigrants to companies where most workers are French. (structural integration)

### People you met "at work place"



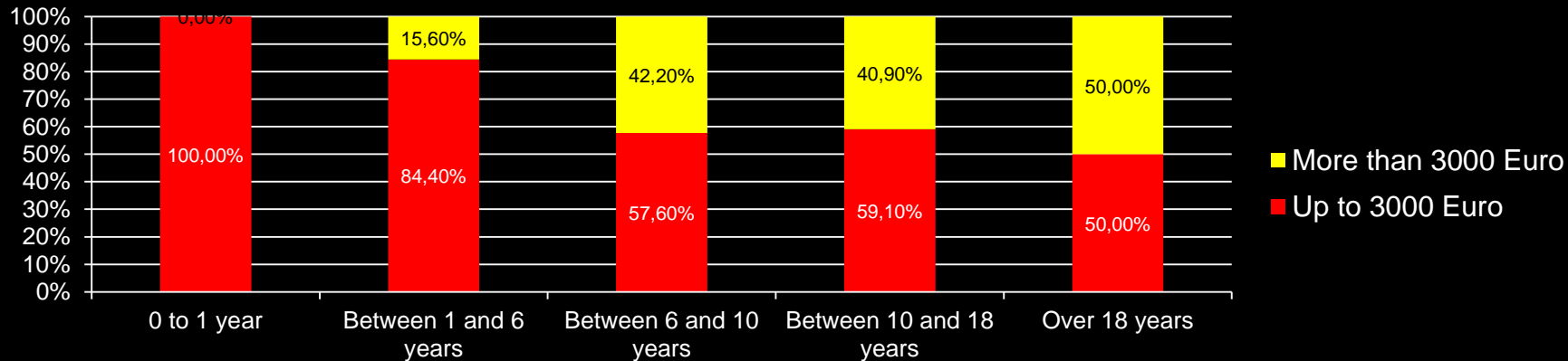
•Note: Students, those without activity and retirees are not included in this analysis.

# The structural integration

## □ Income

- 24% between 0 and 999 Euro,
  - 36% between 1000 and 2000 Euro,
  - 19% between 2001 and 3000 Euro,
  - 12% between 3001 and 4000 Euro,
  - 5% between 4001 and 5000 Euro,
  - 4% over 6000 Euro
- 69% said that in their families, men earn more than women.
  - compared to the percentage of income for food, 15% are in the poverty situation

Relationship income / Year of arrival in France





# The structural integration

## Professional evolution of Romanian immigrants

Occupational groups at the time of research / Professional category in 2004 (Fr Pop)	Occupational groups at the time of research / Professional category in 2004 (Fr Pop)						
	Worker / Employee		Intermediate profession		Specialist		Total
	Romanian immigrant	Total French pop.	Romanian immigrant	Total French pop.	Romanian immigrant	Total French pop.	
Worker / Employee	77,5%	86,4%	9,0%	11,4%	13,5%	2,2%	100,0%
Intermediate profession	7,7%	14,8	65,4%	63,4%	26,9%	21,8%	100,0%
Specialist	,0%	5,9%	2,7%	10,5%	97,3%	83,6%	100,0%

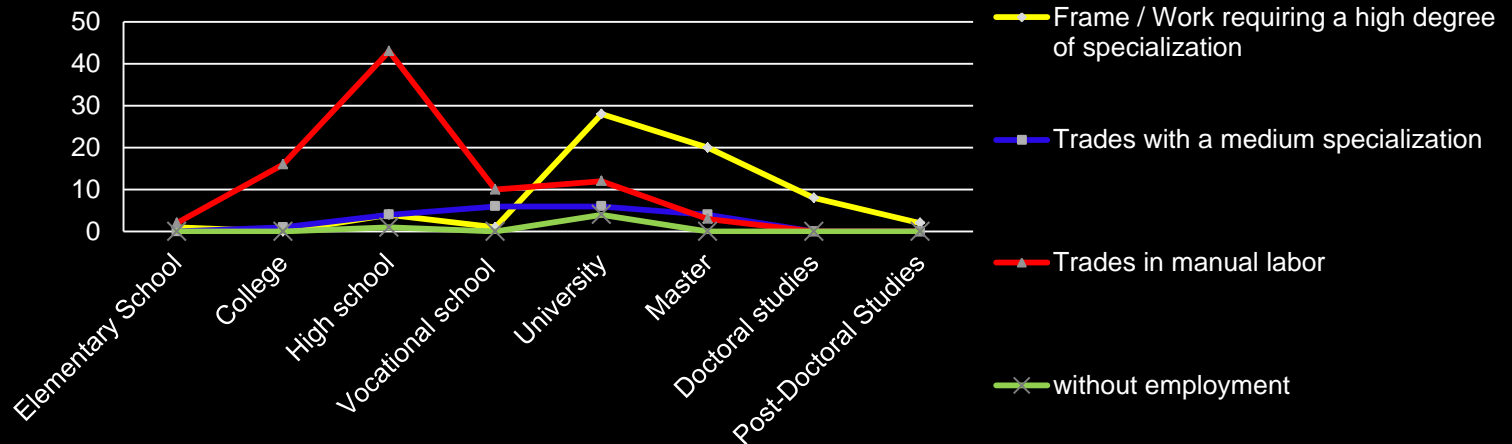
Source: INSEE and author calculation

# The structural integration

## □ Education

- 88% of Romanian immigrants in France have high school degree as the minimum level of education
- 41% of our respondents were trained in France (the highest level Master 1 and 2)

Relationship between work and the level of study

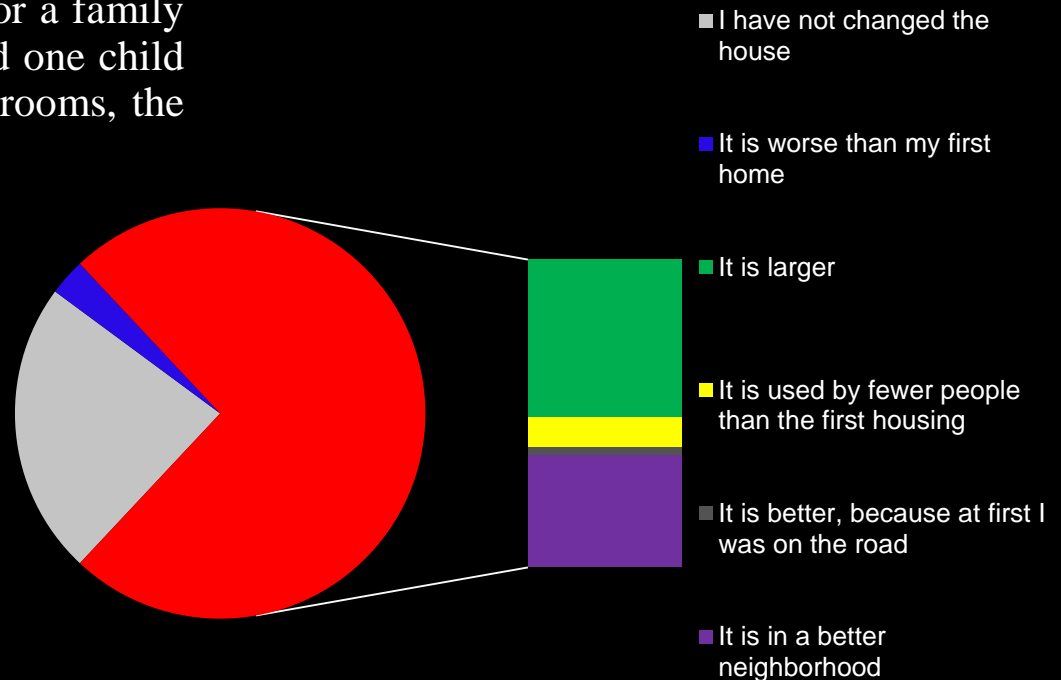


# The structural integration

## □ The residence

- 81% of Romanian immigrants are tenants and 18% are house owners.
- The ratio between the number of people and rooms is 0.8 (For a family consisting of two adults and one child living in a house with two rooms, the index is 0.67)
- 74% to 77% of our respondents who changed their homes are better pleased with their new home

How is it your present accommodation compared to the first home in France?

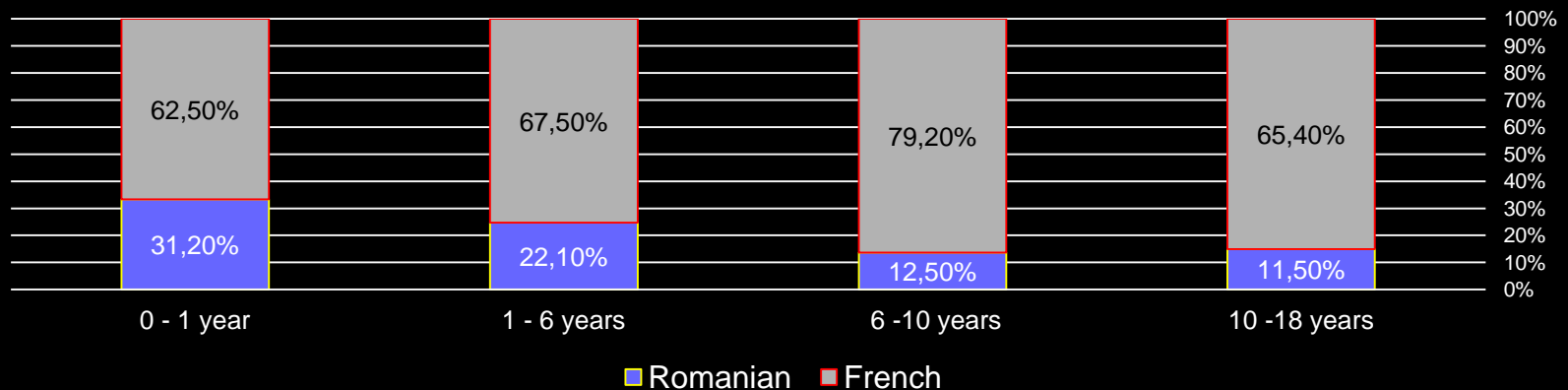


# The structural integration

## □ The residence

- once the family economic status is improved, almost all Romanian immigrants are highly interested in living in better neighbourhoods.
- there is a clear mobility of Romanians into neighbourhoods where there are more French than other nationalities. (residential integration)

### People encountered in "your neighbourhood":



# Cultural integration

## □ Values

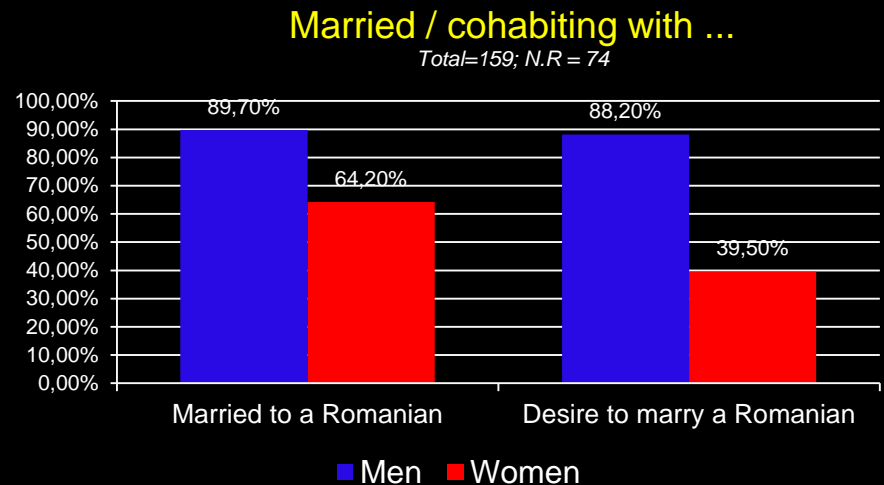
- "Family" is the most important value for the Romanians, being followed by "respect", "France" "work", "religion", "honesty" and "friendship".
- Values that have the highest level of resources to facilitate the integration will be those with the highest level of importance.

Values								
	Family		Work		Friends		Religion	
	Position	Score	Position	Score	Position	Score	Position	Score
Franch	1	86%	2	62%	3	59%	4	13%
Romanians	1	85%	3	53%	4	24%	2	57%
Romanian immigrants in France	1	9,4/10	2	8,7/10	4	8,5/10	3	8,6/10

# Cultural integration

## □ Marriage and marital strategies

- Men have a greater tendency than women to form pairs with other fellow Romanian women
- Women are totally different from men in terms of marital strategy
- Just 39% of women compared to 88% of men say they want a life partner from Romania
- Groups preferred by Romanians for partners are the French and the North Africans



# Cultural integration

## □ The specificity of the Romanian family in France

- 77% of Romanian immigrants have formed couples / families with other Romanians and 23% have formed mixed families
- In the family of Romanian immigrants, women have increased their influence and capacity of decision in comparison with their peers living in Romania
- The cultural background of the Romanian immigrants favors the marriage between a Romanian woman and a French citizen, while for men it can be an impediment. Romanian men prefer to marry Romanian women with similar backgrounds.

The person who takes the decisions in the family					
	Husband / man	Wife / Woman	Together	Children	Other
The person who makes decisions in your family	39,86%	28,26%	23,91%	6,52%	1,45%
The person who should lead the couple (Romania)	40,22%	5,30%	52,73%	-	-

# Cultural integration

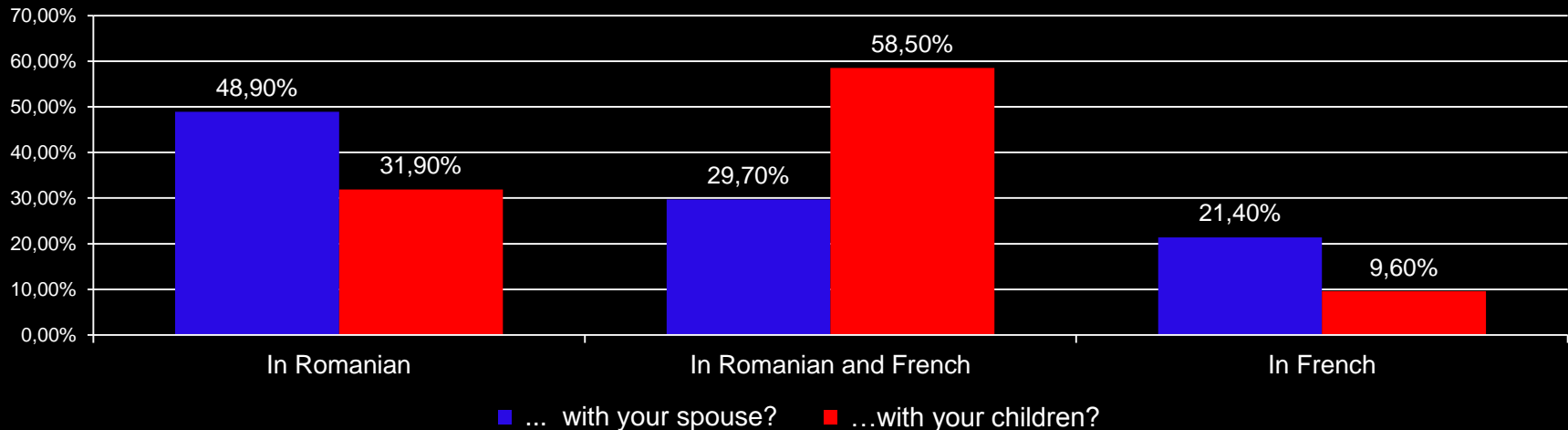
## □ Knowledge and use of French

- Almost all Romanian immigrants had increased their linguistic abilities
- 20% of respondents consider that their French is low, 44% believe they are fluent speakers and 36% are pleased with their linguistic level

What language do you speak at home?

*Spouse : Total=182 NR=51*

*Chidren : Total=94; NR=139*





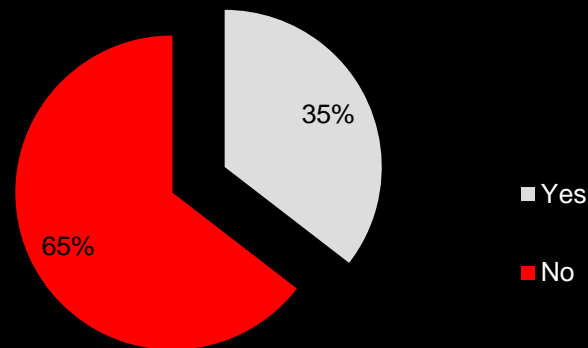
# Cultural integration

## □ Ethnic cohesion / community life

- Reduced participation in community life
- Except the church, which is a meeting place for the community, we cannot talk about a real life community for Romanian immigrants
- Romanian immigrants prefer not to be part of a Romanian community
- Romanian immigrants prefer to meet in small groups of friends or people having the same profession

Do you go to events organized by the Romanians in your city?

Total=220; N.R.=13



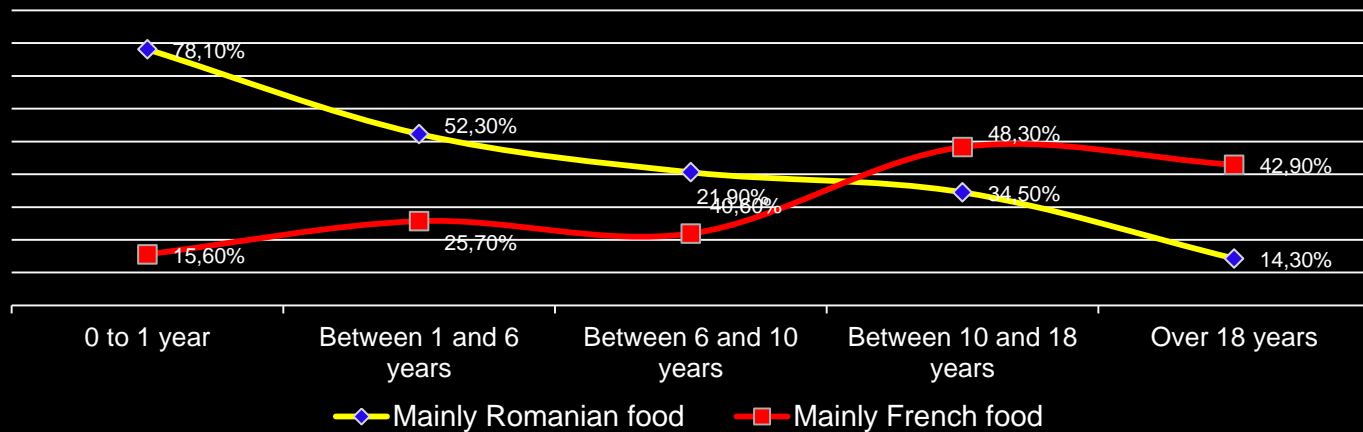
# Cultural integration

## □ The specificity of the cuisine in the life of Romanian immigrants

- The culinary point of view, the evolution towards integrative French specificity is very accurate. Romanian immigrants adopt the style and French cuisine Romanian food is prepared irregularly.

The food that you prepare every day is:

Total=214; N.R = 19



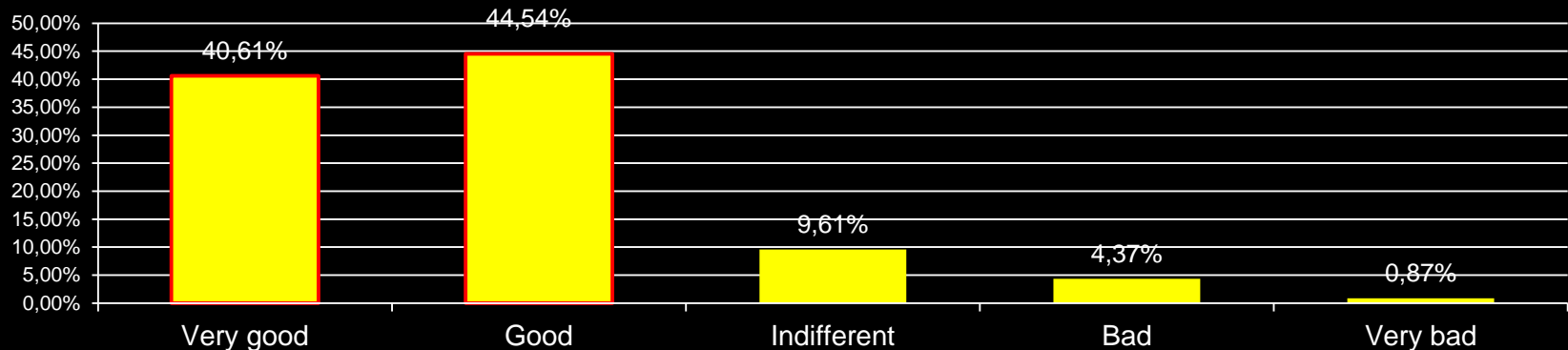
# Relational integration

## ☐ Relationships with others: Romanian, French and other immigrants

- For 54% of the Romanian immigrants the favored category of friends are Romanians; for 32% of them are French and for the rest are Italians, Spaniards, Africans and North Africans
- 55% of the friends / acquaintances met daily are French and 39% are Romanians

### How do you appreciate your relationships with the French?

Total=229; N.R.=4



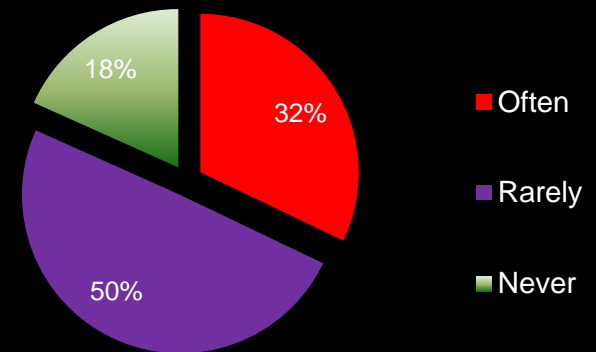
# Relational integration

## □ Relations with the French

- 16% of immigrants have better relationships with other immigrants than with the French.
- 13% prefer relations with the French.
- 70% consider that the relations with the two categories are similar.
- The vast majority of Romanian immigrants (85%) value their relations with the French as "good" and "very good".
- 32% of Romanian families say they are often invited to visit their French friends.

Have you ever been invited into a French family?

Total answers=224 N.R.=9



# The appreciation of life in France.

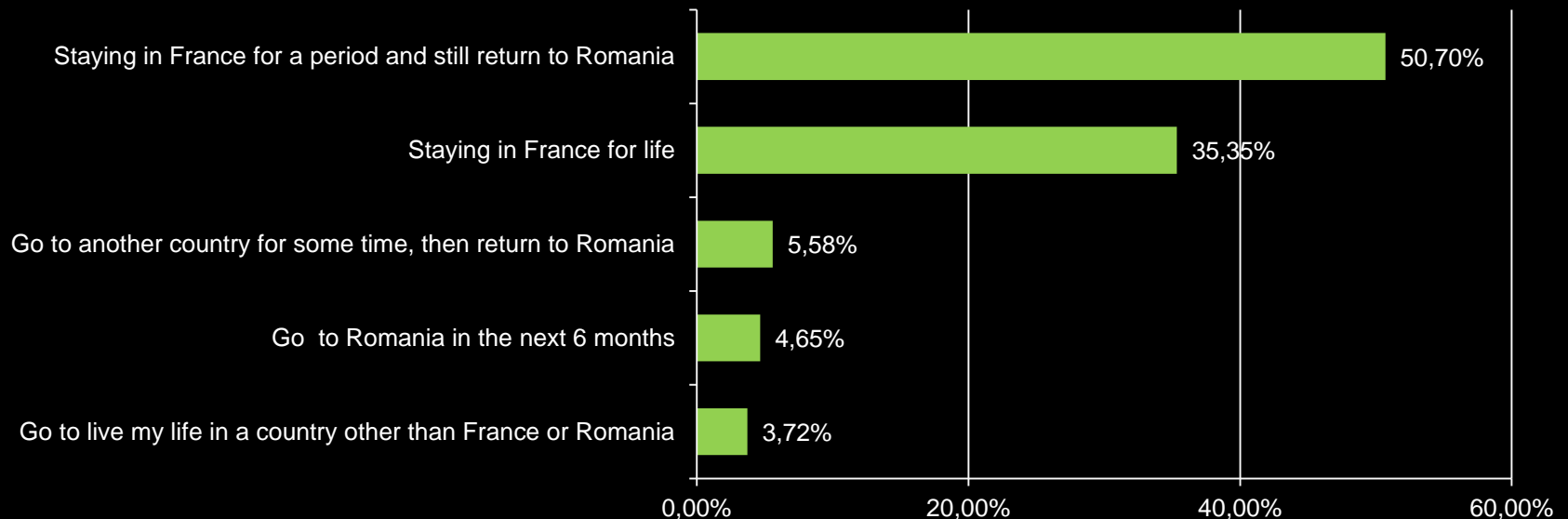
## The future plans

### Future plans

- The two major trends are represented by those who want to stay a few years in France and then return to Romania (51%) and those who want to stay in France for a lifetime (35%).

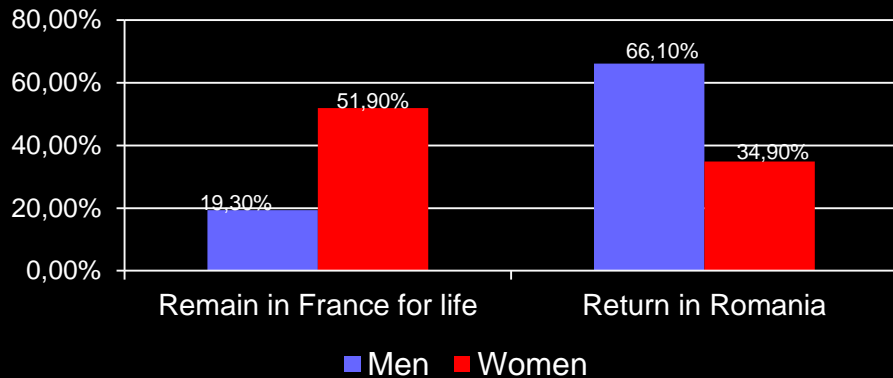
#### For the future, you think ...

Total=215; N.R = 18

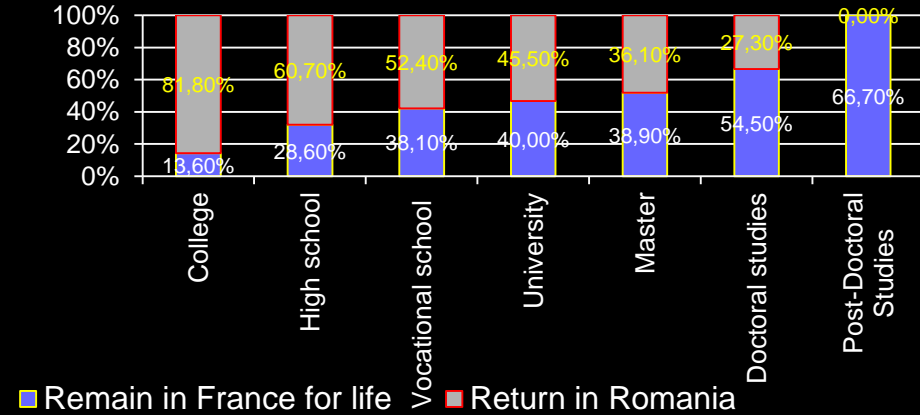


# Who leaves and who remains?

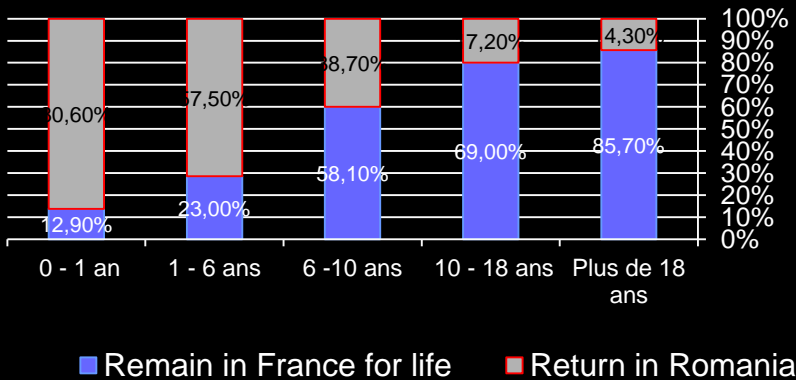
## Leave or remain / Gender



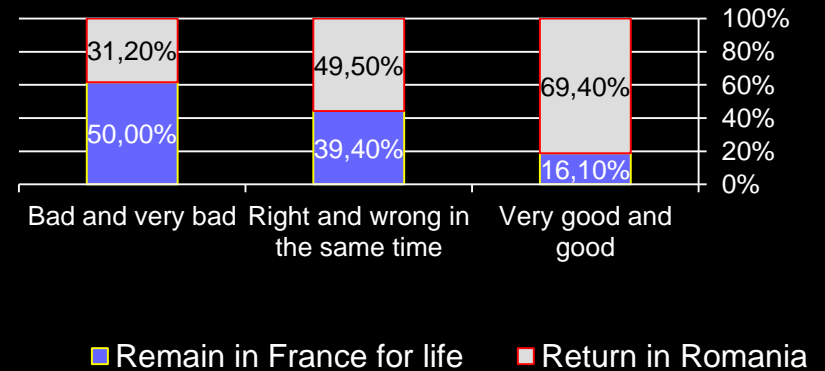
## Leave or remain / Level of studies



## Leave or remain / The year of arrival in Fr



## Leave or remain / View of pop,



*Mulțumesc!*

